

# THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOL. X. NO. 1.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1892.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## THE NEW COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION EFFECTED LAST MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The Sub-Committee—Township Officers' Salaries Fixed—A Number of Petitions Received—A Special Meeting to be Held Next Monday Afternoon.

There was a full attendance of the members of the Township Committee at the meeting for organization on Monday afternoon. Township Clerk William L. Johnson called the meeting to order, and James C. Beach was nominated by Mr. Gilbert for Chairman, and was unanimously elected. G. Lee Stout was elected Treasurer.

Mr. Beach announced the following sub-committees:

Post—Hummel and Gilbert  
Roads—Oakes and Lockwood  
Sidewalks and Crosswalks—Lockwood and Oakes.

Maps and Surveys—Gilbert and Stout  
Sewerage—Rayner and Stout  
Police—Gilbert and Hummel  
Law—Lockwood and Rayner  
Auditing—Hummel and Lockwood

Fire—Rayner and Gilbert  
Gas and Water—Stout and Oakes  
Public Grounds—Hummel and Gilbert

T. Howell Johnson was reappointed Chief Engineer of the Fire Department. The Chief appointed as his first assistant Allan Andrews; second, William R. Rawson; third, Hubert J. Ashley.

Dr. W. H. Van Gieson was appointed Township Physician, and the fee to be charged for visitations to paupers was fixed at one dollar per visit. The reason given for fixing the fee was that in some instances \$2 had been charged for such visits, and Mr. Stout said he did not think it was just for a physician to charge more for visiting town patients than was charged in ordinary business.

Halsey M. Barrett was appointed Township Counsel at a salary of \$500, an increase of \$250 over last year. Mr. Stout said in regard to the money paid for the legal work of the Committee that a great deal of comment had been caused by the payment of what appeared like a subsidiary bill in addition to the salary. He thought the people who were objecting were laboring under a mistaken impression. In fixing the salary of the present counsel at \$500 it was the intention to have it cover all legal work of the Committee, but the town does not deprive itself of the right to employ associate counsel in the event of serious legal cases where such counsel will be deemed necessary, and for which the town will pay extra.

Mr. Beach turned to Mr. Rayner and said, "I suppose, Mr. Rayner, that in the course of a year the Township Counsel has a great many matters to attend to, such as conferences with other counsel, etc."

Mr. Rayner replied that there was a great deal of work to do.

Mr. Beach asked Mr. Rayner if he thought the salary of \$500, as suggested by Mr. Stout, was too high.

Mr. Rayner said he did not.

A. H. Olmsted was named by Mr. Gilbert for Township Engineer.

Mr. Oakes said he had no doubt but that Mr. Olmsted would make a capable engineer, but as he had a contract with the town under way which the Township Engineer would have to pass upon before the work was accepted by the Committee, it would place the Committee in an awkward position to select Mr. Olmsted as its engineer.

Mr. Stout examined the contract of Messrs. Olmsted & Cady and found that it contained a provision for the employment of any competent person other than the Town Engineer to pass upon the work.

Mr. Gilbert urged in favor of Mr. Olmsted that in view of the fact that he was under contract to make grade maps of the streets of the town, in case the Committee desired a map of any particular street they could request Mr. Olmsted to complete that street at once, and thus save the cost of an additional map in case any other engineer was appointed.

Mr. Hummel named E. D. Johnson for the position.

Mr. Gilbert opposed the selection of Mr. Johnson.

A sharp debate ensued between Messrs. Gilbert and Hummel over the appointment, Mr. Gilbert urging that a Republican should be appointed.

Mr. Olmsted was finally chosen.

The Poundmasters of last year were all re-appointed.

Thomas Hayes was reappointed "City Hall" janitor at a salary of \$75 per year.

Thomas Higgins was reappointed to take care of the public grounds. At the suggestion of Mr. Oakes the small strip of park north of Belleville Avenue was included in the property to be taken care of by Mr. Higgins.

Thomas W. Smith was reappointed as special policeman at the cemetery and Fred. G. Darling for Brookdale. The appointment of the other members of the police force was laid over until the next meeting.

In the matter of appointing a superin-

dent of the fire-alarm service, Mr. Stout thought that the salary was too large for the amount of work required, and Mr. Rayner was called on to express his views on the subject. He said that it had been publicly stated that there was a lack of economy in the management of the Fire Department. He was not a member of the Committee when the \$300 salary was fixed. He thought that \$100 was sufficient with the additional allowance of \$3 per day for line work. This last expense, Mr. Rayner said, was problematical. The line required very little attention last year, and the principal part of the Superintendent's work consisted in looking after the batteries in the tower at the Trout House.

Mr. Stout said he was familiar enough with the work of caring for a battery to know that it was not worth \$100 per year to do it. The modern improved batteries required very little attention.

Mr. Voorhees asked for some instructions regarding the poor house. He said the matron was about to leave, and as there was only one inmate he desired to know whether or not he should keep it open. The matter was referred to the Poor Committee.

Bills were presented from the Superintendent of the County Insane Asylum for the board of Nicholas Dreyfus and Edward J. Beames.

The Committee were of the opinion that the county tax covered all expense for township inmates of the asylum, and the matter was referred for investigation.

William Baldwin of Spruce Street, called attention to the bad crossing at the junction of Beach and Spruce Streets. The Chairman directed him to make his complaint in writing.

Engineer Basset requested the Committee to inform the Orange officials at what point Bloomfield desired to intercept the union outlet sewer and what capacity of main would be used. The matter was referred to the Sewer Committee, and at the request of Mr. Rayner the Sewer Committee was directed to procure typewritten copies of all the documents relating to the sewer contract.

An invitation from William S. Pierson Post, G. A. R., to participate in the Decoration Day celebration was received and filed.

Mr. Stout, in accepting the position of Treasurer, said that the Committee would have to find bondsmen for that officer.

The salary list was fixed the same as last year, with the exception of an increase of \$50 to the Overseer of the Poor. The Collector's salary is \$1,200; Assessor, \$700; Clerk, \$400; Overseer of Poor, \$450; Chief Engineer, \$100.

Mr. Stout stated that in making out the salary list the Treasurer had been overlooked. The Committee, he said, were quick to speak about a bond, but were slow to speak about a salary. Mr. Stout asked what salary the Treasurer received last year. Mr. Gilbert replied that he did not receive any. Mr. Stout moved that it be made the same this year. The motion was unanimously carried.

On motion of Mr. Stout a rule was adopted prohibiting smoking in the Committee room during the sessions of the Committee.

Mr. Oakes spoke in favor of the appointment of some competent man to act as inspector of the road and sidewalk work. Mr. Oakes said that over \$30,000 was to be expended in such work this year, and members of the Committee could not afford to spend their time in giving it the personal attention that it required.

Mr. Stout approved of Mr. Oakes's suggestion, and Mr. Beach also favored it.

The Road Committee was directed to select some suitable man for the position and report at the next meeting. The Clerk was directed to post notices calling the sidewalk district meetings for the appropriation of sidewalk grading funds. The first district will meet in Day's store, Brookdale; the second in William Colfax's store; third, Orchard Street depot; fourth, Glenwood Avenue depot—all the meetings to be held on Monday evening, May 9, at 8 o'clock.

John W. Stewart and others petitioned for the extension of the water main from Broad Street through Baldwin Street and along Ridgewood Avenue. Mr. Stewart said that the property-owners interested had been trying for a long time to have the water introduced there, and the Water Company had agreed to put down the main, providing the Town Committee would erect four hydrants on the extension.

William A. Baldwin said there was trouble with the water supply at Brookside School, and if a main was laid through Baldwin Street the Trustees could introduce the city water into the school building.

Mr. Beach thought perhaps it would be possible to secure the lower rate charged to East Orange for hydrants, which is \$1 per year.

The matter was referred to the Water Committee with power.

An extension of the water main on

Williamson Avenue, south from Belle-ville Avenue, was requested, and this petition was also referred to the Water Committee with power.

A petition for a gas lamp, water hydrant, and crosswalk at the junction of Maolis and Midland Avenues was also received, and a crosswalk on the south side of State Street, across Park Avenue, was asked for.

Residents of Clark Street petitioned for the macadamizing of that street.

F. S. Benson and others petitioned for the macadamizing of Highland Avenue. Mr. Benson presented the petition in person, and called attention to the fact that Committeemen Rayner and Beach were interested in property there. Mr. Beach remarked that this fact would not help the petition any.

A large number of bills were presented by the Poormaster, to which the Committee devoted considerable attention.

Mr. Voorhees asked for some instructions regarding the poor house. He said the matron was about to leave, and as there was only one inmate he desired to know whether or not he should keep it open. The matter was referred to the Poor Committee.

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An invitation from William S. Pierson Post, G. A. R., to participate in the Decoration Day celebration was received and filed.

Mr. Rayner stated that the Fire Department had received a similar invitation, but as there was no ordinance governing the Department he doubted whether the Committee had power to order out the Department for parade purposes. The matter was referred to Chief Engineer Johnson to consult the members of the Department, they to use their own discretion in the matter.

Mr. Rayner made application for the return of Maggie Croose's license fee to her. Mr. Rayner said the circumstances in the case justified such action on the part of the Committee. Mrs. Croose had paid \$150 for a license, and the Court had revoked it on account of irregularities in the application. The money was in the hands of the county officials awaiting the action of the Town Committee of this town. The Committee referred the matter to the Town Counsel, and on his approval the money will be paid over to Mrs. Croose.

In view of the remarks by the Chairman relating to sub-Committees, Mr. Gilbert protested against referring the Ridgewood Avenue water main extension to the Water Committee with power, before a report on the matter had been made to the whole Committee. He said under such reference the Water Committee could go ahead and have the work done at any cost.

Mr. Stout approved of Mr. Oakes's suggestion, and Mr. Beach also favored it.

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## THE SALOON QUESTION.

SUBSTANCE OF THE REV. MR. COOK'S SERMON LAST SUNDAY EVENING.

What is in Bloomfield—How Licenses are Obtained—Who Sign Applications—Some Facts About Sunday Drinking.

Last Sunday evening the Baptist Church was filled with a congregation anxious to hear the Rev. C. A. Cook's second sermon on the saloons. Several leading temperance workers of the town were present, and were evidently pleased with the treatment of the subject. The text was from Hab. 2:15: "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh my drunken also." The following is the substance of the sermon: The word of God contains most solemn utterances against the traffic in intoxicating drink, and against the sin of drunkenness. The great and holy God has put the whole traffic in intoxicating drink under a terrible ban. And who that reflects for a moment upon the sad and bitter effects of the sale of intoxicating drink, both upon the men or women who sell it, or upon those to whom it is sold, can fail to see how literally and terribly this woe of God rests upon it everywhere! What wretchedness follows in its wake wherever the traffic is tolerated by the people! I believe that where the saloon keeper has not altogether deadened his conscience by his abominable business, there must be times when his soul loathes the deadly work in which he is engaged, and he himself is filled with wretchedness and woe. The saloon keeper cannot escape the Divine judgment by blaming the man who buys the drink, or the government that gives him his license. No license which all the governments in the world could give man free them from their personal responsibility to God. It is written, "We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ," and who of all men on earth will have so much to answer for as the man who sells rum, which makes men drunkards and criminals, blights the lives of hundreds and causes their eternal ruin.

Still let us not forget that those who are engaged in this business are our fellow-men, that they have souls, and that their souls are as precious as yours or mine, that the Lord Jesus died to save them as certainly as he died to save any of us, and that there is pardon and salvation for them as for any one, if they will only forsake their sins and accept these blessings.

Let it be clear to my hearers to-night and to this entire community that the pastor of the Baptist Church is not engaged in a movement to stir up the feelings of men against their fellow-men. It is the business and not the men who are engaged in it that we are attacking. And it is because we desire the welfare of these very men and of hundreds of others that we have been moved to take this present stand.

Having referred to his previous sermon as dealing with the question selected, Mr. Cook said he desired to state a few plain facts about the saloon question in Bloomfield in particular.

There are, he said, about thirty-five or forty places, including grocery stores, where drink is sold. The liquor grocery store was placed on the same level as the saloon. The fact that groceries are sold where drink is sold cannot make the drink business respectable, though under the cover of the respectability of the grocery business many a bottle of rum is sold that I believe would not be sold if the customer had to go to the saloon to get it.

It was estimated that there are about thirty-five saloons in Bloomfield. With the fruits of the business all are familiar. I want you to know how it comes about that there are so many places where drink is sold.

At this point in the sermon Mr. Cook held up a printed paper on which was the list of names of applicants for licenses for nineteen saloons, and the names of those who had signed the applications. Attention was called to the fact that many whose names were down couldn't write their own names, but the usual mark X was made by people who cannot write. Any Judge who allows such signatures as these to appear on petitions for licenses invites forgeries, and I am of the conviction that a number of licenses are obtained on forged signatures. The fact that a large number of the signatures were decidedly foreign was strikingly pointed out, but as the preacher attempted to pronounce some of the names and spelled some others. It was also stated that the names of church members were there, and that a member of the Town Committee had signed two applications for licenses.

A young man who considers himself a practical joker narrowly escaped serious injury while playing one of his so-called jokes one evening last week. It seems that one of his friends fell asleep in a well-known resort on Bloomfield Avenue, and the joker smeared the sleeper's face with burnt cork. The young man suddenly awoke, drew a revolver and fired point blank at his tormentor. Luckily, however, the bullet missed him. He was about to shoot again, but was seized by the bystanders. Both men are well known.

William A. Baldwin said there was trouble with the water supply at Brookside School, and if a main was laid through Baldwin Street the Trustees could introduce the city water into the school building.

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Last summer the clerk of a New York wine house boarding in Bloomfield was offered \$3 every Sunday by a prominent saloon keeper, if he would work for him in the afternoons. He wanted help, for he took in \$300 every Sunday. A few Sundays ago 100 kegs of beer were consumed in Bloomfield. This would equal 12,000 glasses or enough to supply 500 persons with 25 glasses each. This was no supposition, but bare facts. Nor is such a thing at all impossible, for last night 93 persons were seen in eight saloons, and this very afternoon 16 carriages were seen at three saloons. Other facts equally startling were presented which showed to what an extent drink is sold here on Sunday.

In closing his sermon Mr. Cook admitted that the enforcing of the liquor laws, the lessening of the number of licensed places, the putting down of the saloon in any way is a most Herculean task, most perplexing problem. But because it is so are we willing that nothing whatever should be done? Is it true that the Christian people of this town are content with things as they are or are willing for them to become worse and worse? Is it so that nothing whatever can be done to prevent the scenes of debauchery and lawlessness which have characterized this town of late years during the summer months? Do the people not care? I believe they do. I believe you are responsive to the appeal to take a stand against these evils. It is encouraging, said the preacher, that the local papers are in favor of this movement, and that they are willing to print what is said. Let all unite and something shall be done.

FREE POSTAL DELIVERY.

Boundary Lines of the Districts—Carriers Appointed.

Arrangements are progressing at the Post-office for the introduction of free delivery in June. Postmaster Hayes has fixed the boundary lines of the carriers' districts as follows: The southern district will begin at the Belleville line on Montgomery Street, and will include both sides of that street to Franklin Street, to Washington Avenue, through the Centre, along Washington Avenue to Hillside Avenue, returning to Midland Avenue, taking in both sides of that street to the East Orange line. Watseking Avenue will be the southern boundary of this district.

The central district will include the territory north of Montgomery Street to Belleville Avenue; Orchard Street will be the eastern boundary, and a line extending north from Ashland Avenue will form the western boundary.

The northern district will include the territory north to Bay Avenue between a line running north from Orchard Street on the east and north from Ashland Avenue on the west.

Twenty-two boxes will be placed about town. The precise location of all of them has not as yet been determined on. The following are some of the points selected: Corner of Warren and Broad Streets, Maple and Broad, Belleville Avenue and Broad Street, Greenwood Lake Railway depot on Belleville Avenue, Williamson and Belleville Avenues, Monroe Place and Park Place, Washington and Glenwood Avenues, one in front of the Post-office, Orchard and Montgomery Streets, Franklin Hill, Orange Street and Bloomfield Avenue, Hill and Orange Streets, Watseking Station, Willow Street near the